

Central Coast Rhinos

Newsletter



MELBOURNE ICE HOIST THE GOODALL CUP FOR 2026

It has been a month since Melbourne took on Canberra Brave and won, to hoist the highest honour in Australian Ice Hockey - The Goodall Cup!

Melbourne had an incredible season and played fiercely to reach the end.

As they shared - 60 Training sessions, 7 road trips, 30 games and over 100 broken sticks!

We touched base with past Rhinos forward Joakim Erdugan and asked just how he felt crushing the goal every AIHL team sets for themselves each season.



"To reach a goal that you and your team worked so hard for is an unreal feeling. You feel so happy, so much love and so proud of all the individuals that put their own egos aside and decided to do what's best for the team. For me there is not much that's more beautiful than people come together working as one. One thing that you realize when you win is that the journey is the best part. Winning just makes you appreciate the journey so much more."

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS THIS SEASON!

The AIHL as a whole, and your Central Coast Rhinos, Rely on the incredible dedication of volunteers.

Without them, we wouldn't have the organisation we have, and we are so grateful.

From running the penalty box, to scorekeeping, ticket scanning, merchandising, all go together for smooth game day operations.

If you are thinking of volunteering in the 2026 season we would love to hear from you!





DANICK BOUCHARD - PLAYERS PLAYER

Danick arrived in Australia mid-season and hit the ice with determination.

The 39 year old didn't have much of an off-season as he played a 34 game season for Cergy-Pontoise in Ligue Magnus, the top professional league in France before heading to the coast to finish our season.

Just days after the 2025 AIHL season ended, he was back in the air travelling to his new team in France - Les Corsaires de Dunkerque.

I caught up with him last week to pick his brain

You were born in Canada, how old were you when you started skating?

I was born in Montréal city in Québec province and that's where I gave my first skating stride. In Canada, we have so many outside rinks where you can go whenever you want and as long as you want ... probably over 50 just in Montréal... My childhood was all about playing hockey on these outside rinks for maybe 5 hours a day and playing ball hockey or roller hockey in the streets during the summer. My life and love were and still are, Hockey.

I never "moved" to France as such, I am a French-Canadian guy and it's very different from people in France. I signed my 1st contract in France in 2011 and before that I played pro in Switzerland, Florida and Texas.



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What is it like playing in France in comparison to Australia?

Well, I played in Magnus league in France for 14 years and the league got so much better each season... I got older and slower too. So the differences are the skating and mind speed. The puck moves a lot faster and you have to make your decisions a lot faster too. The teams have systems for most of the situations that happen on the ice and every player has to know their job. The NHL and AHL (2nd level in america) are so much better than France and the ice surfaces are smaller so you have to take your decisions on the ice, again a lot faster than France... if you have your head on the puck for more than 1 second, you might finish your night at the hospital. I think that the AHL level is between France 2 and France 3 but the style is very different. The Australian guys love to hit and french guys love to skate and do nice little plays...

What's your training and game regime like playing for Les Corsaires de Dunkerque?

We have 1 or 2 games a week and 1 or 2 days off so that means that we average 3-4 practice a week plus off ice training most of the time before each practices. Outside the hockey life. I like to go to their nice restaurants and wine bars. Its all over the city and I live in downtown so I can walk everywhere. Thats what I love the most of the french style life. I dont have a car here and I dont really need it. The rink is 10 minutes walk or 2 min bike from my apartment.

Will you be back in Australia in 2026?

My goal is to bring the team and the organisation to another level and win the cup with the Rhinos. Hopefully we can make people from Central Coast proud of their hockey team and create a buzz around our hockey team. So YES I plan to come back in 2026. Thanks again to everyone who "works" to make the CC Rhinos better in every way possible, from my team mates to the staff and the fans, we will reach our goal all together in a short future.





ANAND OBEROI FIRST SIGNING FOR 2026!

We are beyond thrilled to have signed the brick wall that is Anand Oberoi!

He is integral in our growth as a team this season, both on AND off the ice. We cannot wait to build with you next year and make a run for the cup!

I asked Anand how excited he is to be back in 2026, in what will be his third year in Rhinos colours.

"I feel good to be back! Its definitely a place I love to be.



The last few years have been a challenge, nobody likes being in last place. But I am very grateful to have such a supportive fan base behind us – especially the growth of the Crash Crew.

Finals are in the crosshairs this year, losing just isnt acceptable anymore and as a team we will dig deep and pull ourselves from the bottom to the top."

Anand is also an accredited coach, constantly working to improve himself and help others to do the same. Back in 2026 will be his Goaltender coaching classes at Erina Ice Arena.

You can find him here at [Obees Goalies](#)

WANT TO SPONSOR ANAND?

Many of our players including Anand are looking for player sponsors in 2026! Sponsorship supports the players by helping to cover things like Equipment, Uniforms, Ice time and travel.

There are different packages available,

For more sponsorship information please contact teamrhinos25@gmail.com



COMING SOON...

Keep your eyes peeled as the 2026 draw will be out in the coming months, which also means Season Passes will be available shortly!

Did you see our inaugural Crash Crew fan base this year?

It is growing rapidly so dont miss out when tickets become available.



END OF SEASON AWARD WINNERS

Our team came together with our families, friends and incredible fans to reflect and celebrate the season that was.

While we didn't make finals, there was still so much for our squad to be proud of! We welcomed new players this year who formed strong bonds that will last a lifetime.

We have a wonderful team, a great coach and dedicated staff who all cannot wait to make a run for the cup next year!

The team gave out some fun awards, however here are some of the official awards.

FAN CHOSEN PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Anand Oberoi

PLAYERS PLAYER - Danick Bouchard

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR - Gustav Remler-Jensen

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - Danick Bouchard and Anand Oberoi

FAN OF THE YEAR - Todd Clark

Special Thank you to Dmitri and Ivan Kuleshov, Alex Gauthier and Tomas Landa for making the Rhinos your home this year while your home rink got an upgrade! You brought so much knowledge, determination and talent to our team this year and we wish you all the best for the future!



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS!



*Player sponsor



*Player sponsor